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## The Utah Statesman, November 20, 2018

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# Aggies ‘survive and advance’ in wild victory against Colorado State, 29-24

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## ‘Cranksgiving’ event donates to Cache Community Food Pantry

By Alek Nelson  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

Slushy conditions didn’t stop students and community members from cycling around Logan with backpacks full of canned vegetables, Saturday.

Cranksgiving, a bike race put on by Aggie Blue Bikes, is the first of its kind in Utah, according to Meg McCarthy, Aggie Blue Bikes director. McCarthy got the idea to bring the race to Utah after seeing it done in Seattle, where she used to live.

About 10 racers arrived at Aggie Blue Bikes Saturday morning in coats, jackets and hats after an overnight snow. Before the race began, participants were given a manifesto listing grocery stores and checkpoints around Logan to stop at, as is common in most alley cat races.

Cranksgiving races have a unique feature, however: racers purchase

food and carry it with them to donate to a local food bank.

Cyclists could earn points by purchasing canned foods, frozen turkeys and potatoes. After stopping by the checkpoints required, the cyclists met at the Cache Community Food Pantry to weigh their donations and tally points. Points were earned based on the number of stops visited and the amount of food purchased.

In total, the race donated over 210 pounds of food to the pantry. Prizes were donated by Joy Ride bike shop.

Jake Gammill, a local resident, won the award for heaviest donation with 64 pounds of food, including a 25-pound bag of flour strapped to the back of his bike.

Meanwhile, Dayton Crites, another Logan resident, won the award for most points accumulated by stopping by multiple specialty grocery stores in Logan.

Because Aggie Blue Bikes is a part of the Center for Civic Engagement, community service is a focus of the organization, said program director Meg McCarthy. Because of this, service is a focus of Aggie Blue Bikes’ activities.

“I think Cranksgiving just fits in beautifully with that and ties bikes into it,” she said.

Cranksgiving races, like the one in Logan, began in 1999 in New York City, and have expanded to locations throughout the country. Even though the races have similar features, each one is independently organized and run.

When asked if the event would become an annual event, McCarthy responded, “I hope to do it every year and make it a cornerstone of Aggie Blue Bikes.”

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PHOTO BY Alek Nelson

About 10 racers arrived at Aggie Blue Bikes Saturday morning for “Cranksgiving.” In total, the race donated over 210 pounds of food to the Cache Community Food pantry.

## Utah State names new Title IX coordinator



PHOTO COURTESY OF Utah State Today

By Naomi Ward  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Utah State University named Hilary Renshaw as the new Title IX coordinator on Thursday. The appointment is part of the reorganization process in the Title IX and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity offices.

Renshaw replaced Scott Bodily, who served as interim coordinator after Stacy Sturgeon was removed from the position last spring following an investigation that found discrimination and misconduct in the university’s piano program had been dismissed for years. Scott Bodily will return to his position as an AAEO specialist.

Renshaw has been working as a Title IX investigation manager in the AAEO office since Oct. 1. Renshaw has worked as a middle school teacher in Utah and Louisiana, volunteered in crisis centers and a domestic violence shelter, and also earned a master’s degree in educational leadership. Most recently, she graduated magna cum laude with a juris doctor degree from the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University.

Amanda DeRito, the university’s sexual misconduct and outreach coordinator, said in a press release on Friday that Renshaw has proved her ability to appropriately

respond to trauma and to be an effective administrator. The press release states that Renshaw plans to help students feel comfortable in reporting to Title IX, ensuring faculty and staff have the resources necessary to support students in reporting, and sustaining a process that is “fair and equitable for both the complainant and the respondent.”

DeRito said that the university is planning opportunities for students to get to know the new director. Because it can be intimidating for students to talk to someone in Renshaw’s position, said DeRito, the university wants students to feel comfortable and be familiar with her.

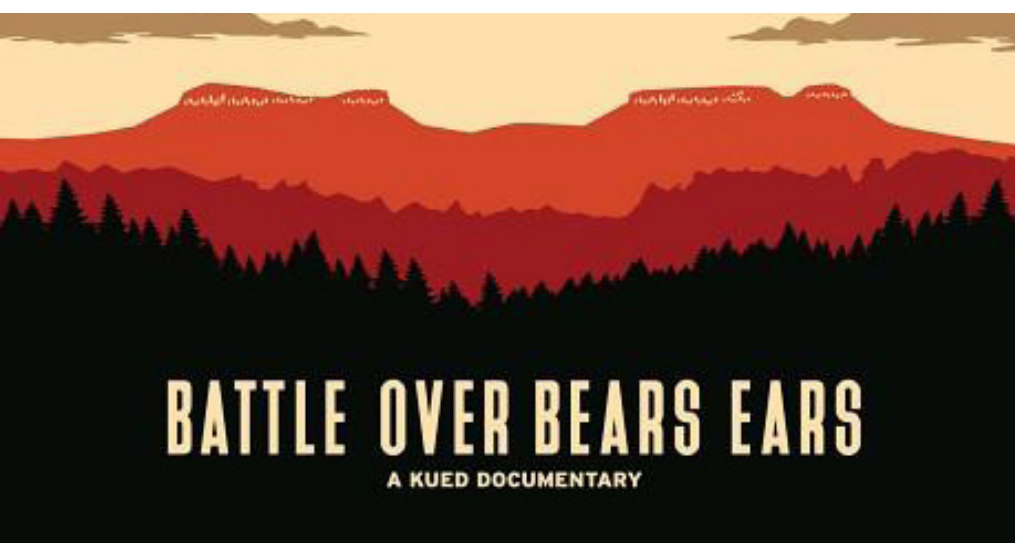
“Renshaw’s background working with people in crisis and her experience in law set her apart from the other candidates,” DeRito said.

Utah State University announced plans to add five new positions to Title IX, Student Affairs, and Sexual Assault and Anti-Violence Information offices last September. The AAEO director, which was previously combined with Renshaw’s new position, has yet to be named. DeRito said the university is currently in the interviewing process. Dale Andersen currently serves as the interim AAEO director.

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## Students discuss public lands issues at documentary screening



By Naomi Ward  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

With public input on Bears Ears closed and Grand Staircase-Escalante’s public comment deadline approaching, Rylee Jensen wanted to create an easy way for students to learn more about Utah’s public lands and get involved.

Jensen, a Utah State University student currently enrolled in the honors think tank class on public lands, said she wanted to find a way to condense the things she had learned in class into one concise presentation or event for students. Upon hearing about “Battle Over Bears Ears,” a new documentary premiered by KUED on Monday, Jensen got permission from the station to show the documentary on campus. She collaborated with the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and the National Park Conservation Association to put on the event Wednesday night.

Professor of the think tank Keri Holt compared the Bears Ears controversy to another public land debate about the Colorado River Storage Project in Dinosaur National Monument decades ago.

“Back then there was a lot of public outrage and yet no mechanisms for the public to weigh in, so people went to the media,” said Holt. “Now, the public has that opportunity, but it’s difficult. There are a lot of documents to go through.”

The documentary explored opinions for and against the Bears Ears designation from San Juan county locals, indigenous tribes in Utah, local politicians, archeologists and outdoor recreationists. Proponents for the national monument, argue that the designation is necessary to preserve the cultural and ecological value of the landscape while those arguing against, interpret the designation to be federal overreach, restricting access for locals.

Utahns had mixed but strong reactions to former President Barack Obama’s designation in 2016 and public reactions resurfaced in 2017 when President Donald Trump announced plans to reduce the national monuments. The Trump Administration officially reduced the monuments in December of 2017, shrinking Bears Ears by 85 percent and Grand Staircase-Escalante by about half.

Now, the Bureau of Land Management is gathering public input to prepare plans

for land use and management. Though the submission deadline for comments about Bears Ears ended Thursday, comments about Grand Staircase-Escalante can be submitted through Nov. 30.

Cory McNulty, the associate director of the National Park Conservation Association, said there is a large focus on oil and gas development.

“This administration is focused on energy dominance and speeding up the process of selling oil and gas leases,” McNulty said. “The reason why we’ve been really interested in Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante is because the original designation connected all this land.”

The Grand Staircase-Escalante monument connects to Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef and Glen Canyon.

McNulty expressed concern that industrial use of oil, gas, coal, and even the possibility for renewable energy projects, create a potential for pollution and “a myriad of other activities not compatible with national parks.”

In the discussion following the screening, members of the audience brought up an argument made by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke in the documentary – that Bears Ears really isn’t about oil and gas because the agency’s report states that there is little potential for drilling in the area.

McNulty said not only is the BLM’s proposed plan less restrictive to energy development, but the rush to sell leases for oil, gas and coal leaves millions of acres already leased and not developed.

“Companies can come and buy land for mere dollars an acre in some places and then, whether they develop it or not, they have 10 years that they’re holding that land,” McNulty said. “It creates uncertainty in the landscape.”

Whatever their opinion, Jensen said the goal of the event was to encourage people to participate in the public commenting process.

Kaden McArthur, an intern for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, said it’s important for Utahns to be actively involved in issues concerning public lands like Bears Ears and Grand Staircase.

“Management decisions affect the land near us and people that care about that land should take the time to use their voice,” McArthur said.

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# Amendments in the USUSA constitution passed

By Alison Berg  
NEWS SENIOR WRITER

Utah State University students voted on two amendments to the USU Student Association constitution last week — both changes were passed by the student body, according to a press release sent by USUSA.

The first amendment, which recieved 95 percent approval in the votes, added the USU Blanding campus as a “USUSA Service Region” within Regional Campus Student

Government. This means the USU main campus president presides over the campus, but the Blanding campus will still elect other representatives.

The other, which passed with 80 percent approval, granted more power to the USUSA Academic Senate to govern and make decisions within its body.

The Academic Senate change specifically allowed the group to fill vacancies of elected and appointed officers as well as “levy charges of misconduct and incompetence

in office towards USUSA Academic Senate officers in addition to authorizing the USUSA hearing board to hear such cases.”

The bills were passed in the USUSA Executive Council several months ago, but had to be approved by the student body before they can take effect.

These changes will go into effect as soon as possible, the press release stated.

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## Ogden mayor killed in Afghanistan had ‘loved Afghan people’



PHOTO BY Matt Herp/Standard-Examiner, Utah National Guard Honor Guard carry a casket containing the remains of Maj. Brent R. Taylor at the National Guard base Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018, in Salt Lake City. The remains of a Utah mayor killed while serving in the National Guard in Afghanistan were returned to his home state on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018, as hundreds of soldiers saluted while his casket covered in an American flag was carried across a tarmac and into a hearse.

By The Associated Press

OGDEN, Utah (AP) — A Utah mayor killed while serving in the National Guard in Afghanistan had “loved the Afghan people” and was a man of conviction, confidence and compassion, family and military leaders said at a public funeral Saturday.

Brent Taylor, 39, was a deeply patriotic man who was committed to training commandos as part of an effort to build the capacity of the Afghan national army, Utah Army National Guard Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton said at the service inside an events center in the northern Utah city of Ogden.

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Visiting Campus November 6th - 8th

Nov 6th: In EBB, Nov 7th: In Huntsman Atrium, Nov 8th: In Career Services





PHOTO BY Francisco Kjolseth/The Salt Lake Tribune  
Newly elected Senator Mitt Romney, center, attends funeral services for Maj. Brent R. Taylor, alongside Sen. Mike Lee and Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox at Weber State University's Dee Event Center in Ogden, Utah on Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018. Taylor, 39, the mayor of North Ogden, died Nov. 3, 2018, while serving in Afghanistan.



PHOTO BY Francisco Kjolseth/The Salt Lake Tribune  
Major General Jefferson S. Burton speaks about service during Maj. Brent R. Taylor's funeral services at Weber State University's Dee Event Center in Ogden, Utah on Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018. Taylor, 39, the mayor of North Ogden, died Nov. 3, 2018, while serving in Afghanistan.



PHOTO BY Spenser Heaps/ Deseret News  
Tammy Taylor, mother of Maj. Brent Taylor, takes a moment beside his casket at the end of his interment at the Ben Lomond Cemetery in North Ogden on Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018.

“Mayor” FROM PAGE 2

Taylor was killed Nov. 3 in an attack by one of the Afghan commandos he was training, military officials said.

"He was completely committed to going and doing this job," Burton said. "He truly loved the Afghan people and wanted to help them so they could build capacity in themselves and as a nation to be able to stand on their own."

Taylor's casket was draped in an American flag and sat in front of a stage where his father, a local leader with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, led the services.

The choir sang "America the Beautiful" as the opening hymn and "Born to be a Soldier" to close in a nod to the service's focus on Taylor's love of country and commitment to sacrifice.

His wife, Jennie, didn't speak but has previously said the family felt "heartache but no regret" because Taylor was trying to bring freedom to others.

Besides his wife, Taylor leaves behind their seven children, ranging from 11 months to 13 years old.

The memorial service capped off several days of events to honor Taylor.

Hundreds of soldiers saluted Taylor's flag-covered casket Wednesday as his remains returned to a National Guard base in Salt Lake City. A couple hundred motorcycle riders carrying American flags followed the hearse north to Taylor's hometown of North Ogden in a procession.

On Friday, a National Guard member stood guard over his casket during an all-night vigil at a mortuary.

Taylor had taken yearlong leave of absence as the mayor of North Ogden to go on his second tour to Afghanistan. Taylor, a military intelligence officer with Joint Force Headquarters, also had served two tours in Iraq.

Younger brother Derek Taylor said Brent had a knack for bridging gaps and finding resolutions among people with different views — a talent he developed at the family home where fights and disagreements were frequent. He said his brother always ended their phone conversations with "Love ya, Derek."

He said his brother was blessed with "three Cs," — commitment, confidence and compassion — and those were the driving force behind everything he accomplished.

"As a brother, Brent was as good as they come," Derek Taylor said. "He was the best of all of us."

Toby Mileski, a friend and former mayor of Pleasant View, a town neighboring North Ogden, remembered Taylor for his love of eating, his penchant for always running late and his good sense of humor.

"We were always laughing — always — and that's one thing I'm really going to miss," Mileski said, later adding, "Jennie, kids, your dad was a warrior, a patriot and a super person. I am honored and blessed have been able to call him my best friend."

# ‘Tis the season: overnight parking in Logan



FILE PHOTO BY Megan Nielsen  
The city does not allow cars parked next to sidewalks between midnight and 6 a.m., from Nov. 15 to March 15. Parking officials have been giving cars in violation of the ordinance "Warning notices" since Nov. 15, but will now be ticketing until the middle of March.

By Alison Berg  
NEWS SENIOR WRITER

*Editor's note: This article originally ran on Dec. 1, 2017 and it has been updated for factual clarity.*

Although there is currently no snow on the ground, parking on city streets overnight will still result in a fine.

"The whole reason for that is the snowplows are trying to get the snow off the road as fast as they can," said Logan City Police Lt. Jeff Simmons, who oversees the department's administrative division, which includes parking.

If cars are in the way, city snowplows cannot fully plow the road. The city does not allow cars parked next to sidewalks between midnight and 6 a.m., from Nov. 15 to March 15.

Parking officials have been giving cars in violation of the ordinance "Warning notices" since Nov. 15, but will now be ticketing until the middle of March.

Simmons empathized with off-campus students whose landlords do not provide adequate parking.

Oftentimes landlords do not provide enough parking for residents, Simmons added.

"You're just leaving these poor students out on the road and then we're having to take action because we have to clear the roads," he said.

Although many landlords provide residential parking permits, these do not exempt residents from the parking rules.

Those who violate this parking ordinance will receive a \$25 ticket, which will increase if unpaid within 10 days. A violator has the option to appeal their ticket to a board made up of city residents. If the person receives six unpaid tickets, the city can either tow their car or file a claim in municipal small claims court.

The appeals board has the option to reduce, dismiss or leave a citation the way it is, Simmons said.

Although the city collects revenue from parking tickets it isn't a main revenue generator.

"It's barely a drop in the bucket compared to the city budget," Simmons said.

The current city budget is about \$149 million, according to the Logan city's website.

"The point is just to get [vehicles] off the road so we can clear it for everybody," Simmons said.

The city has also used its social media to promote the timely ordinance, and has included information in its utility billing flyer.

"There's a lot of people who either don't know or just don't want to comply," Simmons said.

Although the city has given about 150 warnings thus far, Simmons said he expects citation numbers to drop throughout the season.

"Once we do these citations, numbers fade," he said. "They start to learn, they find other ways."

Although city ordinances mandate landlords in the campus residential zone provide a parking space for every resident, not all comply.

"Sometimes the parking is not thought of primarily when they're renting, and it leaves some of these students without parking," Simmons said.

Students with questions or concerns about parking rules may contact the Logan City Police Department at 435-716-9300.

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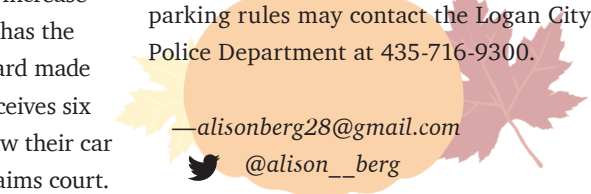
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# Stuff-A-Bus with SNAC for the food pantry

By Erick Graham Wood  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

Utah State University's largest month-long food drive, Stuff-A-Bus, continues this week with volunteers from the Student Nutrition Access Center, the Cache Community Food Pantry and Aggie Shuttle.

Every Monday night in November, volunteers go to local neighborhoods, pick up food donations from community members and then take it to the food bank.

"We start planning in September," said SNAC co-director Sierra Allen. "The SNAC pantry has taken over running this event for the last several years. We get plastic bag donations from grocery stores, scout out neighborhoods to go to, make maps and recruit volunteers."

The event was started 22 years ago by Alden Erickson, the current director of Parking and Transportation Services. Erickson started by going to grocery stores to get donations of food and supplies like hygiene items to give to families in need.

"It's been evolving over the years," Allen said, "but SNAC took over several years ago and it's become a fun tradition. We take out Aggie Shuttles filled with Aggies around the community to pick up donated food and it's always a lot of fun and a great way to get to know our community better."

The Aggie Shuttles start at Maverick Stadium on Sunday at 5:00 p.m. and go around town leaving grocery bags on doors. The group then meets again on Monday at 7:00 p.m. and travels to North Logan, River Heights, Logan City and Providence to collect food from residents.

"Everyone is welcome to come help. We love having groups come too," Allen said. "Lots of campus clubs or organizations as well as church groups come and help and we love that."

Anyone with questions regarding the event can go to the Aggie Sync event page of to the service center in the Taggart Student Center.

Volunteer Bryce Johnston said he helps with the Stuff-A-Bus event every year.

"I've been helping with the donation pickup, bringing hot chocolate for all of the volunteers when they get off the bus and helping unload at the food pantry," Johnston said. "I've helped with SNAC before but that's what I've mainly been doing this month."

Each year, large groups of students volunteer, sometimes over 100.

They are asked to be respectful and "jolly" as they visit the homes.

"In some ways hunger really is a hidden epidemic," Johnston said. "It's important work, being able to get food to the pantries because it's vital to combat the hunger for those in need, especially in Cache Valley where there really isn't a large support base for it."

He continued.

"SNAC always has tons of opportunities for volunteering throughout the whole year. I feel the holiday spirit at its core is really about making it a good holiday for those that really need it. Service is the best present you can give to your community. It doesn't cost anything and goes so much further than what



PHOTO BY Holley Stringham  
Stuff-a-Bus is a food drive put on by the Service Center at USU where buses full of students drive to different areas of the community to collect food donations.

you put in."

Cassie Ivie said she got involved with the event after volunteering for SNAC throughout the year.

"It's easy for Utah State students to live separately from Logan residents. As a group effort, this makes us into a unified community. We become mutually supportive and more capable as a whole," Ivie said.

Matt Whitaker is the director of the food pantry and said the organization really emphasizes volunteer work from January to October because during the holiday season people are always showing up to help but they lose interest the rest of the year.

"What I really want from this event is to provide students with a meaningful service

opportunity where they can get to know their community better," Allen said. "We go to neighborhoods that most students would never go to otherwise and being able to interact with community members is really important and helps create a sense of connection for many students."

Allen said she isn't focused on how much the organization is donating, though she admits the more the better.

"To me, numbers are great, but seeing people grow and learn is more important to me," Allen said.

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# HackUSU hosts annual Hackathon

By Erick Graham Wood  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

Imagine a room full of hundreds, maybe thousands, of people attending a conference or symposium.

The keynote speaker is at the front of the room. They are a prestigious individual with very valuable time. They are ready to conduct a questions and answer session. There are volunteers walking the aisles of the audience, mics in hand, ready to give the audience member their moment to ask this question.

A volunteer races from the first audience member all the way to the back of the room

where another question is waiting. There's an awkward silence as the audience awaits the next question. The mic in hand, the audience member speaks and the mic fails.

Could this tedious process be a lot simpler? A solution for this problem was proposed at Utah State University's annual HackUSU. Software developing students Bruce Nguyen and Alastair Nicdal of Weber State University, were at the student hackathon to make their solution a reality.

"We are trying to make a website similar to Kahoot that allows audience members to speak into their smartphone and their questions are played on the host's phone, which is connected to the same audio output

the host's mic is connected to," Nguyen said.

The duo said they didn't get very far developing their idea at the Hackathon on Nov. 16 and 17, but that they learned valuable skills that might eventually put their idea on the market.

"We've been here since four o'clock on Friday and just submitted our idea," Nguyen said at noon on Saturday. "We wanted to get experience on the teamwork aspect of programming as well as wanted to speak with people with similar interests and passions."

Nicdal said he was just starting out with programming and this was an event that helped him gain a lot of knowledge on the subject.

"It's a great event and it is exciting to see it grow every year," said Andrew Aposhian, the event coordinator. "It can be hard raising the funds to feed 300 attendees for 24 hours but we have a great team putting this together."

Aposhian said 51 projects were submitted and the winner either received \$1,000 or the chance to make their idea a reality.

"Tech is good for the universe. It helps people and this event helps people," Aposhian said.

He added that coordinating everything and being a student on campus was one of the hardest parts.

The event was sponsored by USU Student Media and websites like Aggie Cribs presented their sites for face-lifts.

"Aggie Cribs is looking for an upgrade because they can't really access any of their files and they have to pay somebody to edit their content," said Thane Stevens who worked with his group on the issue.

"It's just not cost effective to operate this way and it's a rough looking website so we went in and got their source code and we just spruced it up a bit," Stevens said.

If Aggie Cribs is interested, they will then contract Stevens' group to continue editing their site.

Jeremiah Christensen is the leader of Stevens' group and said he focused on the back side of the website making the logic while Stevens designed the front, including the look of the site.

"We were tempted to use Wordpress but Avenue was easier to speed up the process," Christensen said. "This is the first event that has really gotten our group involved in the community and it has just been fun to see what everyone can create."

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PHOTO BY Jason Rimando

Time for raffles at the annual HackUSU Hackathon on November 16-17, 2018. Hackathon is a competition on who can create the best app or website.



# USU hosts first university funded drag show

By **Brianne Sorensen**  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

The Utah State University Housing Resident Assistants hosted the first-ever USU Drag Show Wednesday in the Taggart Student Center Ballroom to raise support and awareness for the LGBTQ+ community in Logan, especially on the USU campus.

“We decided to put on this drag show to include minorities and give them a voice in a safe space on campus, but there ended up being so many other benefits,” said Nathan Taylor, the USU Housing resident assistant who organized and planned the show. “Our research has shown us that drag shows can give participants 60-70 percent more confidence. If we can help them achieve that, we will have done our job.”

The ballroom was outfitted with 500 seats, but students, faculty and other community members filled all of the seats within 10 minutes of the doors opening and an additional 150 people stood in the back to watch the performance.

“After tonight, we have seen this is what Logan wants, needs and supports,” said Hannah McDonald, who organized the event.

Jared Gheen is a volunteer for SAVVI, the Access and Diversity Center and QSA, and active in the LGBTQ+ community. He attended the show to support his fraternity brother, friends and boss, performer Macy Keith.

“I am so excited this event is happening, I think it helps make USU campus a more inviting place for people from all walks of life,” Gheen said. “I want our community to notice the queer community since it has been in the dark for so long.”

The show was sponsored by USU’s Center for Women and Gender, The Access and Diversity Center, CAPS, Sexual Assault and Anti-Violence Information and the Cache and Logan Pride Centers.

There was a large range of experience of the queens and kings at the show. Some kings and queens were professionals and have made several drag show appearances. One such performer was Emerald Phantom, who has made appearances all across the country. Other performers were USU students performing in drag for the first time.

“I have been performing drag for about three years, but a chill still goes down my spine each time I step out onto the stage,” said Betty O’, a queen who performed at the show.

A drag show consists of drag artists of several different gender identities performing a wide range of entertaining acts. These acts most often feature drag queens and kings lip-synching to songs while dancing or pantomiming.

The queens and kings who perform at drag shows often wear elaborate costumes and makeup, sometimes imitating famous personalities. There are several types of drag kings and queens, including camp, faux and glam. Each brings a different look to the stage. Costumes often reject modern ideals of beauty, gender and heterosexism.

Nancy Raygun, who has been participating in drag since June 2018, performed a Christmas medley singing act dressed in camp drag, a comedy style of drag. Raygun is a sophomore studying theater education at USU.

“As a student, doing drag can be very taxing on my bank account. I do my best and utilize the D.I. My costume tonight is a bunch of old



The Kings and Queens of the evening answer questions from the audience about Drag and LGBTQ+ community on Nov. 14, 2018 in Logan, Utah.

PHOTO BY **Megan Nielsen**

Christmas sweaters sewn together,” Raygun said. Performer Kellin performed a non-traditional act, playing an original song acoustically. Their performance prompted several audience members to pull out flashlights and sway along with the music.

Cache Valley has historically been a conservative area with very little outreach and support of the LGBTQ+ community, according to the Cache Pride Center. However, several organizations and support groups have been created within the past decade to provide resources to Cache community members in the LGBTQ+ community.

“I often feel scared when I am in drag and not in the performance hall. I often feel uncomfortable standing in front of the bathrooms, not knowing which one it is okay for me to use,” said performing queen Anya Bacon, a Logan native. “But with help from people like this audience tonight, you have helped make Cache Valley a better, safer place.”

Tyler O’Loughlin, an RA for USU Housing, helped organize and run the tech booth at the show.

“This is really out of my comfort zone, I have never been at an event like this. It has shown me that everyone is so much more similar than we actually think. On the flip side, we should celebrate our differences to promote equality on campus,” O’Loughlin said.

O’Loughlin said this drag show is the first that was planned and funded by a university in the state of Utah.

Susan Grayzel, a history professor at USU specializing in women’s and gender studies, opened the show with a speech to encourage the audience to think critically and give context to the drag movement.

“We live in a culture with clear gender binaries, but it doesn’t have to be that way,” Grayzel said.

Grayzel pointed out that gender symbols have changed over time. Before World War I, pink was a symbol for masculinity. However, pink today is commonly known as a symbol for femininity. She hypothesized this change is due to performativity of gender.

“We perform gender, we learn how to do this.

Other people tell us how to perform, and we do it,” she said.

However, performativity and gender identity may not be the same for everyone. Many queens and kings of the night noted the difference during a panel discussion.

“Drag is a performance of gender. Being transgender is a gender identity, it is who you are,” said Marlone, a king who performed at the show. “If you want to

know how we identify, or what pronouns we use, just ask us. We are more than happy to help you understand.”

Audience participation was encouraged, and throughout the show, students ran to the stage to tip performers, traditional for a drag show.

“I don’t do it for the money, but it certainly helps me look this fabulous,” said performing queen Madame LaCrude.

Drag shows have been cited as the beginning of several queer movements, according to Lisa Underwood, author of “The Drag Queen Anthology.” Several performers used their act to make a political statement.

Bacon held up posters depicting President Trump and Kim Jong Un, which received cheers and shrieks from the audience.

“I’m here to make a statement, the statement that we will not be erased, no matter who


tries to erase us,” Bacon said.

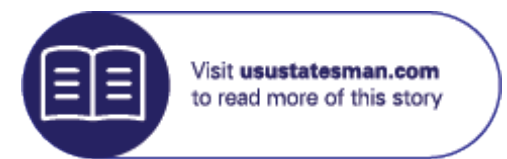
Marlone waved a large LGBTQ+ flag at the end of his performance that garnered a loud cheer from the audience.

Audience member Brandon Barton attended the event to show his support for the new endeavor of equality on campus.

“I absolutely love drag, it is so cool to see how these (kings and queens) express themselves,” Barton said.

—[brianne.sorensen@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:brianne.sorensen@aggiemail.usu.edu)

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PHOTO BY **Megan Nielsen**

Lizzy McQueen performs at the Utah State University drag show.





Utah State sophomore guard John Knight III dunks the ball in Friday's 65-46 victory over Utah Valley University. The Aggies are now 4-0 on the season, their third time starting perfect through four games in the past six seasons.

PHOTO BY Tim Carpenter

# Aggies remain undefeated in young season

## Utah State defeats Utah Valley in 65-46 slugfest to move to 4-0

By Adam Larson  
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The Utah State men's basketball team defeated Utah Valley University 65-46 in a physical battle Friday night at the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. The Aggies start the season 4-0 for the third time in the past six seasons with the win over the Wolverines.

Utah State was led in scoring by junior guard Sam Merrill with 14 points, while senior forward Quinn Taylor added 10 points and a career-high 15 rebounds.

The Aggies shot poorly all game, finishing the game at just 36.2 percent from the field and 18.2 percent from three-point range. Utah State held Utah Valley to just 30.9 percent from the field and 23.1 percent from three-point range.

"There was a stretch they couldn't throw it in the ocean, point-blank shots. We couldn't make a point-blank shot," said USU head coach Craig Smith. "We missed some wide-open shots that we haven't been missing."

The game was point-for-point until about four minutes left in the first half, when the Aggies went on a 12-0 run to end the half. Utah State led at the break 32-20.

Smith said the game was a tough test for the team and he thought they played well. He

noted the game felt like a conference game with the high-energy atmosphere in the building. "What an unbelievable home court tonight. The Spectrum was rocking," Smith said. "We're working hard to get the magic back. It made a difference. There's no doubt. The energy, the passion, the enthusiasm carries over on the floor."

Merrill also noted the crowd was a major factor in the Aggies' win over Utah Valley.

"Crowd was awesome tonight," Merrill said. "That was maybe as loud as it's been since I've been here."

Utah State would out-rebound the Wolverines 50-37 with a career-high 15 boards coming from Taylor. The Aggies would also haul in 17 offensive rebounds in the game.

Taylor said the game was much more physical than he expected, but was glad it turned out that way.

"It's early in the year so they usually call it a little more ticky-tack," Taylor said. "It felt like a conference game or a conferment tournament game with the physicality."

The Aggies were able to hold Utah Valley's leading scorer, junior guard Jake Toolson, to just four points on the night. Toolson had been averaging 17 points per game on the season.

"Jake Toolson is a really, really good player," Smith said. "To hold him to four points speaks volumes."

The Aggies look forward to Monday's game against Saint Mary's and Wednesday's game against Arizona State or Mississippi State in the MGM Resorts Main Event in Las Vegas, Nevada. Saint Mary's is 3-0 on the season,


with its most recent game coming in a 73-58 win over New Mexico State on Wednesday.

 @ajlars13



Utah State freshman guard Tauriawn Knight drives past a UVU defender during Friday's game. The Aggies held the Wolverines to just 31-percent shooting from the field in the game.

PHOTO BY Tim Carpenter



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PHOTO BY Megan Albrechtsen

Utah State junior cornerback DJ Williams tackles Colorado State's Izzy Matthews during Saturday's 29-24 victory over the Rams. With the win, Utah State moves to 10-1 on the season, just the third team in program history to earn 10 wins in a season.

# 'Survive and advance'

## Aggies escape Fort Collins with victory on wild finish, will now play Boise State for division title

By Daniel Hansen  
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Heartbreak, then ecstasy.

An illegal touching penalty wiped out a touchdown on a Hail Mary for Colorado State, after the receiver stepped out of bounds before catching the ball, and Utah State escaped by mere inches with a 29-24 victory over the Rams on Saturday in Fort Collins.

"I've never been a part of something like that. I've never seen something like that," said USU senior linebacker Jontrell Rocquemore. "I went from an all-time low, thinking the world's going to end, to 'oh my gosh, we just won.' I don't know how to explain that."

The game started slowly, with neither offense able to enforce its will on the opposing defense. Utah State built a 10-0 lead early in the second quarter after senior safety Aaron Wade returned an interception 95 yards for a touchdown. Colorado State responded with an 8-yard TD run from running back Izzy Matthews to send the teams in the locker rooms with USU up 10-7.

"We started out slow as an offense," said USU senior receiver Aaren Vaughns. "We got two drives down in the red zone and we should've scored both of those drives, but we kind of froze up."

The teams traded several field goals before a 32-yard interception return for a touchdown by Rocquemore put Utah State up 20-10 heading into the final frame. The Rams opened the fourth quarter by finishing a 15-play, 90-yard drive with a nine-yard touchdown pass from Collin Hill to Preston Williams to trim USU's lead to 20-17. Utah State responded with a third field goal from Dominik Eberle, who went 3-of-3 on field goal attempts in the game, to make it 23-17 with seven minutes remaining.

Then all hell broke loose.

Utah State stopped Colorado State, forcing a punt from the Rams near midfield, but the return was muffed by freshman WR Deven Thompkins. CSU recovered, and the Rams took the lead two plays later when Hill found Williams for a 17-yard TD reception to put Colorado State up 24-23.

Facing a fourth quarter deficit for the first time since playing at Michigan State the first week of the season, the Aggie offense took over with 1:36 remaining, and immediately marched the ball into CSU territory as Love found senior receiver Ron'quavion Tarver for a 28-yard gain down the left sideline. Three plays later, Love found Vaughns wide open on the corner route to the left. Vaughns sidestepped a defender, then waltzed into the end-zone to put USU up 29-24 with 43 seconds to play.

"It's a great, humbling feeling," Vaughns said of his score. "I trust my ability and I knew all I had to do was make the play, catch the ball, and get in the end zone for our offense... I was just looking for my teammates to celebrate. I was happy for me and my teammates to get that score."

With little time remaining, the Rams quickly moved the ball past midfield and set up a Hail Mary attempt on the final play of the game. Hill lofted a pass deep down the right sideline to Williams, who rose up to catch the ball among several Aggie defenders. Rocquemore guided Williams out of bounds on his route, however, forcing an illegal touching penalty for being the first player to touch the ball after returning to the field of play. The penalty resulted in a loss of down, and the end of the game for USU's first victory at Colorado State since 2012.

"Thrilling, obviously. I don't have much voice left," said Utah State head coach Matt Wells. "I think everybody that came got their money's worth. I think it's a gutsy effort by players on both sides of the ball. They spilled their guts out there. Both teams played their heart out. What else can you say? It's going to be a heart-breaker for one of them... Football gods were smiling down on us today."

Colorado State held the Aggie offense in check for the majority of the game, as the Rams won the yardage battle by count of 506-310. Love finished with 169 yards on 15-of-24 passing with one touchdown. Senior RB Gerold Bright led USU on the ground with 89 yards on 13 carries, including 47 yards in the fourth quarter alone.

Hill led Colorado State with 296 yards on 24-of-37 passing, with two touchdowns and two interceptions. Matthews finished with 100 yards on 20 carries for the Rams.

"I feel like our defense really stepped up to the challenge," Rocquemore said. "Games like this where the offense is struggling a bit, it takes a good defense to rally behind them... I don't want to pat our defense on the back, because there's a lot of things we can clean up and a lot of things we have to go back and fix to prepare for the next week. But we got the job done."

The victory sets up a winner-takes-all matchup for the Mountain Division crown next week between Utah State and Boise State. The winner will also host the Mountain West title game.

"We know we have to go back to the drawing board and really have a great week of practice, because that's the only way we get the job done," Rocquemore said. "Now we have to bring our level of intensity up, our focus, everything. Our technique is going to be amplified for this next week, because I know Boise



PHOTO BY Megan Albrechtsen

Utah State sophomore wide receiver Savon Scarver returns a kickoff against Colorado State. The Aggies will next face Boise State Saturday at 8:15 p.m. in a game which will determine the Mountain Division champion.

# Aggies' season concludes with consecutive road losses

By Lauren Lomeli  
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The Utah State women's volleyball team finished out its 2018 regular season over the weekend with a pair of road matches which both ended in defeat.

The first match of the week-long road trip began on Tuesday against Boise State. The match ended in a five-set heartbreak as the first four sets were split down the middle, but the Aggies were beat out by the Broncos in the fifth and final set. This loss for Utah State put them at 5-23 overall and 3-14 in league play, and set Boise State at 18-10 and 10-7 in conference play.

Highlights from the match included senior setter Kassidy Johnson recording 49 assists and 20 digs, making that her 12th double-double of the season. The attack on Utah State's end was lead by a trio of teammates who each had double-digit kills. Sophomore middle blocker Bailey Downing had 15 kills and sophomore outside hitter Gabbi Shumway recorded 12, while freshman outside Whitney Solosabal racked up 14 kills of her own. Freshman middle Preslee Johnson led her team with six blocks, and a career-high of three solo blocks. Senior libero Taisa Taylor shined with her career-high 28 digs during this match.

In the beginning of the first set, Utah State was able to overcome the Broncos' 9-6 lead and tied the set at 12-12. The Aggies were able to go off on a five-point run after a kill by Solosabal, and ended with a kill by Downing to set the score at 17-12. Boise went on a five-point run of their own to tie again at 17-17, and ended up taking the lead again at 21-18. USU went on to win the frame 25-23.

The second set was bleak, ending at 25-11 in favor of BSU.

Utah State then came out aggressively in the third set by taking an early 7-3 lead. USU maintained the lead until late in the set, 20-15, until Boise went on a seven-point run of their own to take the lead 22-20. After a 22-22 tie, the Broncos gave the final push and took the set 25-23.

The fourth set was another blur for the Aggies, because once a 5-5 tie was broken the team took off and showed no mercy by winning 25-14.

Both BSU and USU came into the fifth set looking for a win and ready to fight for it. After working up to another deadlock at 4-4, Boise State broke free and went on a seven-point rampage to land them at 11-4. The set was given to them 15-9, along with the match.

The final match of the season took place on Saturday against Air Force. This was the first time USU has lost to Air Force in a three-set match. Air Force began the first set of the match with a 13-3 run, and kept the momentum going to win 25-13. The Falcons continued the beat down in the second set by taking that one 25-12.

The final set of the season started in a two-point advantage for Utah State, before Air Force took control once again with a 7-5 lead. The Falcons went on a 6-1 run afterwards to give themselves a comfortable eight point gap at 18-10, before going on to win the set, 25-17.

The Aggies ended their regular season at 5-24 overall, and 3-15 in the Mountain West.

@lomeli\_lauren

is going to bring it, so we have to be ready for it."

At 10-1, USU has already tied the second-most wins in a season in program history.

"I've coached for 22 years and we've got a special season going. We're going to celebrate," Wells said. "This game's too hard... We've won games different ways. Not every one of them is going to be the same, but I think that's the essence of a team. That's the essence of camaraderie and the Aggie brotherhood and the teamwork that goes into it."

Utah State takes on Boise State on Saturday at 8:15 p.m. The game is scheduled to be broadcast on ESPN.

@thegraddanny



# Stan Lee taught the world to ‘geek out’

By Erick Wood  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

*Editor’s Note: To submit a response to this column, or submit a letter to the editor on a new topic, email your submission to [opinion@usstatesman.com](mailto:opinion@usstatesman.com)*

Just over a week ago the world lost one of the most influential voices in pop culture. Stanley Lieber - better known as Stan Lee the primary creative leader for Marvel Comics - passed away on November 12.

The world has undoubtedly been moved by the loss.

Lee, who was 95 at the time of his passing, was familiar to most as the man who made cameos in every Marvel movie, but Stan Lee was so much more than that. To say that he was the driving force behind much of the aesthetic for fandom in 2018 would be an understatement. Lee created a shared multiverse of characters from the brains of various collaborators such as Jack Kirby and Steve Ditko. Lee is commemorated for helping create characters like the X-Men, Iron Man, Thor, and Spider-Man in a career that spanned almost 80 years.

Now, not everyone is as affected by Lee’s work as his hardcore fans are, but most may also not realize in what ways Lee has shaped the culture that we all live in.

See, I am a nerd. I geek out over a variety of things which basically means that I freely spend an excessive amount of time and money devoted to worshipping other people’s creations. One of the things I geek out over is the influence of pop culture on society and because of this, I can assure readers that they have definitely felt the effects of Lee’s work in their lives.

Today it seems that everyone is geeky about something. You can be a math geek, or a sports geek, or you could be the type who has to binge-watch the newest season of Stranger Things on Netflix as soon as it is available. No matter what the interest is, we have become a society that is catered to with as much content as we could possibly want. We enjoy entertainment in a way that at some point would have been considered unnatural. It was once “weird” to be obsessed with anything that isn’t your job or family. However, now, people openly geek out. They run in the streets declaring themselves to love whatever it is they love, and that’s amazing, but before we could get to this point, our society had to go through a major face-lift which all started with World War 2.

Stan Lee came into his teenage years after the Great Depression and he started his work at Timely Comics when he was just 17. Being 90 years removed from this time period, Americans today probably don’t realize how these events shaped the people of that era. Lee was taught hard work and graduated high school at 16. There wasn’t much in way of entertainment at that time, but he noted his love for the newspaper “funny pages.”

While Lee was working as a “go-for,” that same year the second World War began. People needed hope and they needed entertainment that took their minds away from the war. This shaped Lee’s early work. By the time Lee was 19, he wrote filler for his first comic (Captain America #3) which infamously has Steve Rogers confronting Adolf Hitler. Lee dropped the name “Lieber” and created his pseudonym because writing comics was looked down upon and he didn’t want his actual name to be tainted. It wasn’t until after the war that comic book characters began to grow in popularity, as Detective Comics released their stories in the 50’s, but it was this formative time when people needed a hopeful message that Lee found himself having a voice.

Lee went on to write romance, horror, and westerns in the 50’s as his job wanted “stories that people would buy.” Lee grew tired of the machine of storytelling and wanted to appeal to



FILE - In this April 11, 2012, file photo, Stan Lee arrives at the premiere of "The Avengers" in Los Angeles. Comic book genius Lee, the architect of the contemporary comic book, has died. He was 95. The creative dynamo who revolutionized the comics by introducing human frailties in superheroes such as Spider-Man, The Fantastic Four and The Incredible Hulk, was declared dead Monday, Nov. 12, 2018, at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, according to Kirk Schenck, an attorney for Lee's daughter, J.C. Lee.

more people by giving them something unique. By the beginning of the 60’s, Lee was looking towards superheroes, a genre meant for kids but one that Lee had a deep connection to, to tell meaningful stories. Lee wasn’t afraid to geek out about the things he loved. Lee remembered how revolutionary his Captain America was for audiences in a time when hope seemed futile. Now, with hippies running around and a new era of ideas coming to fruition, Lee took the chance to revolutionize the Superhero genre, by giving the characters human conditions. By telling stories that reflected the culture, society listened and began to show up for what was now known as Marvel Comics.

Sometimes I wonder what storytelling would be like if all of our characters remained herculean figures with supernatural weaknesses. Would fans have still been as engaged? The thing that fans relate to when it comes to Spider-Man is that he was a teenager struggling with poverty. Tony Stark was an alcoholic. Bruce Banner had anger issues and the X-Men, well they were persecuted just for being who they are. The characters of Marvel Comics didn’t belong in the 1960’s. They belonged in the 21st century, but nobody knew that yet because the art wasn’t imitating life. Life was going to eventually have to catch up.

It was the 60’s that was the most important time for American pop culture. People like George Lucas, Steven Spielberg, and Martin Scorsese got to witness the change in how

stories were told. The art world really moved into modernism and Stan’s work started to inspire the biggest voices of the 70’s and 80’s. The movies became more human. There were television sets in every home. The stories from Marvel Comics became about politics, activism, race and representation, the same things that consumers were seeing on the nightly news. “Stan’s Soapbox” became a platform that addressed intolerance and discrimination. It was in the 70’s and early 80’s that Lee started to revolutionize pop culture. He took his characters to Hollywood with the belief that fans wanted to see stories in multiple mediums including books, TV, movies, and comics.

It’s ironic that Stan’s vision wouldn’t fully be realized until the 2000’s and more accurately, the 2010’s.

In the 80’s however, we saw major growth in pop culture. People gathered around TV sets to watch new shows like “Wonder Woman” and “The Incredible Hulk.” They began to talk about these shows at work or in school the next day. Merchandising became a game-changer, because suddenly there was a market for toys, clothing, and lunchboxes. Star Wars alone changed Hollywood by being the first literal block buster, making an insane amount

of money from toys, and managing to create a sequel superior to the first film. Lee was right about getting his creations on TV and in film. Conventions became the norm where fans would meet their heroes. It wasn’t until fans grew up that the nostalgia factor kicked in. Everything nowadays seems so sped that the nostalgia factor has a much shorter turnaround, but for Marvel Comics, it took an entire generation for the kids playing with Spider-Man action figures to grow up and decide to make Spider-Man movies.

This process of turning comics to film, fans turned creators, and stories targeting general audiences instead of niche audiences, again changed pop culture. Now, we don’t have to say “oh, a comic book

movie...that’s for nerds” because it isn’t. It’s for everyone. Suddenly every movie is for a wide audience. Every book or comic is accessible to 80-year-old men and 8-year-old girls. The notion that “no one is going to watch this film, or read this book, or like this song” is fading away because there is now an audience for everything.

Maybe you don’t want a Dr. Seuss “Grinch” movie starring Benedict Cumberbatch, but somebody does. Maybe you aren’t interested in a dark reimagining of Sabrina The Teenage Witch, but someone is. You may really be into 2018’s Bohemian Rhapsody and not A Star Is Born but that doesn’t mean both films can’t be in theaters at the same time and both making crazy amounts of money. In fact, they are because there’s an audience for each of them.

TV and films today are embracing the long-form narrative. Creators are connecting with fans more than ever before.

Maybe the idea that the success of A Star Is Born is somehow connected to a pop culture wave started in the 60’s is absurd but look at it this way: The stories that Stan Lee set out to tell were serialized narratives centered on characters with flaws. These characters were in a universe that was like our own and allowed for interaction across mediums. If a certain character wasn’t your favorite, it was likely that another one (also created by Lee) was and that you could spend your money on merchandise to show your love for that character.

Sound familiar? That’s because our entirety of pop culture is reflective of these ideas that were non-existent before the 60’s. Everything from Netflix to Disney to Harry Potter has been set up in a way that allows relatable characters to be featured in long-form narratives across mediums designed to make money on merchandise. Our entire culture has become reflective of the things we geek out about.

Stan Lee taught us how to geek out. He put his passion into something and offered it up to the world. The way that we will honor his legacy is to continue to create and to continue to tell stories reflective of the world we live in.

Take time to obsess over the things you love. That’s what Stan Lee would have wanted.

*Erick L. Graham Wood is a writer for The Utah Statesman and a senior at USU studying Journalism and Mass Communications. He enjoys writing about film and pop culture and has been a fan of comic books as a medium since he was eight. He learned how to read from the pages of a Spidey and Friends coloring book.*



PHOTO BY Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP



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<div>CALENDAR</div> <div>NOVEMBER 20 - NOVEMBER 26</div>					
TUESDAY 11/20	WEDNESDAY 11/21	THURSDAY 11/22	FRIDAY 11/23	SATURDAY 11/24	MONDAY 11/26
<p>Nancy Hills White Dress Exhibit 9:00am Fine Arts Center</p> <p>Learn to Belly Dance with Shimmering Sands 7:00pm The Whittier Community Center</p> <p>Open Microphone 7:00pm, \$2 WhySound</p> <p>USU Women's Basketball vs BYU Cougars 7:00pm Dee Glen Smith Spectrum</p> <p>Country Swing Tuesdays 8:30pm, \$4 Cache County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall</p>	<p>Nancy Hills White Dress Exhibit 9:00am Fine Arts Center</p>	<p>Nancy Hills White Dress Exhibit 9:00am Fine Arts Center</p> <p>Helicon West Open Mic Night 7:00pm Logan City Library</p>	<p>Beaver Mountain Black Friday Day pass sale 9:00am, \$44 Beaver Mountain Logan City Office</p> <p>Novemberfest Arts and Crafts Fair 10:00am 615 Riverwoods Pkwy Logan, UT</p> <p>The Nutcracker 1:30pm Ellen Eccles Theater</p>	<p>Novemberfest Arts and Crafts Fair 10:00am 615 Riverwoods Pkwy Logan, UT</p> <p>Meet Santa and Mrs Claus 11:00am Stork Landing</p> <p>The Nutcracker 1:30pm Ellen Eccles Theater</p> <p>The Nutcracker 7:30pm Ellen Eccles Theater</p>	<p>Cache Valleys one and only Night Club Dance Workout 6:30pm, \$15 The Cache Venue</p> <p>The Nutcracker 1:30pm Ellen Eccles Theater</p>

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